



Kentucky Geologists

Volume 8 Issue 1

May 2006

Mission

The mission of the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is to regulate the public practice of geology in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth from negligent, incompetent, or fraudulent practices.

Board

Michael P. Sanders, *Chair*
Doug Reynolds, *Vice Chair*
Thomas P. Ryavec
Robert E. Fox, *Public-at-Large*
James C. Cobb, *State Geologist, Ex-Officio*

Kentucky Division of Occupations & Professions

John C. Parrish, *Director*
Dana Hockensmith, *Board Administrator*

Office of the Attorney General

Mark Brengelman, *Board Attorney*

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859-277-0777 tel
859-257-1147 fax
jhowe2@pop.uky.edu

<http://finance.ky.gov/ourcabinet/caboff/OAS/op/progeo/>

As an agency of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists is solely funded by applicants and credential holders, and receives no tax dollars.

A Letter from the Chair: the purpose of the Board & the value of registration

Every once in a while the Board gets a question or maybe some criticism on issues that relate to geology or geologists in this state. Since our statute, KRS 322A, the geologist registration law, is relatively new, there are still many misconceptions about its purpose and some confusion about our Board's function.

We recently received an inquiry about what we could do as a Board to improve the treatment of registered professional geologists within state government particularly with regard to their hiring and promotions. At first glance, this issue appears to be a wonderful opportunity for the Board to exercise some high powered geological advocacy on behalf of our fellow professionals. After all, we Board members have been appointed to this lofty position of power and prestige, haven't we?

Sadly, our Board cannot function as an advocacy group for geologists. However, the Kentucky Society of Professional Geologists (KSPG) and the Kentucky section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) do fulfill that purpose. These organizations are the best vehicles to initiate changes to our law, if needed, and they serve as the voice of our profession in this state. Recently, these organizations were instrumental in the passage of the "Geologist-in-Training" bill. Our Board has implemented this addition to our statute with the recent approval of regulations by the legislature.

The Board's primary purpose is to administer KRS 322A and to credential individuals as "Professional Geologists" or "Geologists in Training" in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Since state, federal, and teaching positions are exempt from Chapter 322A, our Board has no authority or oversight concerning geological work or hiring of geologists within these organizations.

If you are a Kentucky state employee or are graduating with a degree in geology and want

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Mike Sanders, PG, Board Chair

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Registration Activity

New Registrants

Professional Geologists:

Drew Phillip Storm (IN) 10/14/2005
Christopher D. Parks (IN) 10/14/2005
Kenneth Logsdon (KY) 11/28/2005
Kevin P. Carey (KY) 11/30/2005
Lowell G. Kessel (CA) 12/08/2005
Scott D. Connors (IA) 12/15/2005
Gene Kip Anderson (KY) 12/15/2005
Bradley Earl Gentry (IN) 3/29/06
Sheri Lynn Adkins (KY) 4/25/06
Mark C. Begley (IN) 4/25/06
Michael Lynn Coffey (TN) 4/25/06
Sarah J. Gaddis (KY) 4/25/06
Christopher H. Jung (KY) 4/25/06
Mark F. Wood (KY) 4/25/06
Richey B. Cline (KY) 4/25/06
Russell J. Kanith, Sr. (PA) 4/28/06
Dean M. Stefanczyk (WI) 4/28/06
Howard M. Miller (OH) 4/28/06
Samuel B. Vinson (KY) 4/28/06

Geologists in Training:

Chris R. Adair (KY) 4/28/06
Joshua S. Cochran (KY) 4/28/06
Weldon T. Hawkins (TN) 4/28/06
Bradley Alan High (KY) 4/28/06

Total Registrants

As of April 28, 2006:
1694 Professional Geologists
4 Geologists in Training.

ASBOG Exam Results

October 7, 2005 Exams

Fundamentals Exam

9 Tested 4 Passed

Practice Exam

6 Tested 4 Passed

March 3, 2006 Exams

Fundamentals Exam

17 Tested 15 Passed

Practice Exam

14 Tested 13 Passed

Calendar

Tentative Schedule – 2006 Board Meetings

June 12, 2006
August 7, 2006
October 2, 2006
December 4, 2006

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location:

Div. of Occupations & Professions
Conference Room A
911 Leawood Drive
Frankfort KY 40602

*Note: Dates are subject to change.
Please call the Board Office if you plan to attend.*

Kentucky 2006 – 2007 ASBOG Exams

Exam Dates: **Application Deadlines**

October 6, 2006 August 10, 2006

March 2, 2007 January 5, 2007

ASBOG 2006 Annual Meeting and Council on Examiners Workshop

November 1 – 5, 2006
Park City, Utah

Board Actions

Complaint Review Report

The Complaint Review Committee last met October 3, 2005, to consider a new initiating complaint and response. In response to Complaint #05-02, a Cease and Desist Affidavit was sent to Respondent with the option to file a lawsuit to stop the unlicensed practice of Geology and Title Act violation, if necessary.

Board Legal Actions

No actions were finalized since the last announcements.

Licensee Disciplinary Actions

No actions were finalized since the last announcements.



New and Amended Administrative Regulations

New and amended administrative regulations were promulgated effective February 3, 2006, in response to revisions to Kentucky Revised Statutes 322A. These new regulations deal with the newly established complaint management process and Geologist-in-Training certificate. In addition, some existing Board regulations were amended to include the Geologist-in-Training certificate. A summary of these regulatory changes follows. The regulations in their entirety are posted on the Board's Web site: <http://finance.ky.gov/ourcabinet/caboff/OAS/op/progeo/>.

Complaint Management Process

Under KRS 322A, any person or organization can prefer charges of misconduct against any registrant, certificant, or applicant. Persons not registered by the Board are prohibited from the public practice of geology in Kentucky, with some statutory exceptions. By definition, initiating complaints filed with the Board are signed, written allegations of possible misconduct by a credentialed individual or other person that might constitute a violation of KRS Chapter 322A or the applicable administrative regulations. The new complaint management process regulation (201 KAR 31:090)

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2005 ASBOG Annual Meeting

During the first week of November 2005, Tom Ryavec and I attended the annual meeting for ASBOG, the National Association of State Boards of Geology. This organization is responsible for putting together the two competency examinations, the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and the Practice of Geology (PG), administered by our Board and other state boards to qualify geologists for registration. The process for putting together these exams involves a great deal of work by geologists from across the geologic spectrum, donating their time and talents to writing the questions and answers, and reviewing those questions for fairness and relevance. ASBOG has compiled a databank of thousands of questions which serve as the pool for each exam. ASBOG has recognized that past exams have tended to emphasize aspects of geology dealing with groundwater or environment, and had few questions dealing with energy-related topics. In addition, the FG examination often had questions that were more appropriate for the PG examination. ASBOG is working to correct these trends. Also, there have been discussions about making the PG examination “modular,” so those geologists whose work has been limited to energy or ground water, for example, will have a test that emphasizes their field of practice. I believe that these adjustments are good things and I look forward to these changes being made.

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*A Letter from the Chair:
the purpose of the Board &
the value of registration
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to be hired by the state or federal government or work in academia as a geologist in Kentucky, you may be asking yourself, “Do I need to go through the process of becoming registered as a Professional Geologist?” Although being registered as a Professional Geologist (PG) or certified as a Geologist-in-Training (GIT) is not required to practice geology under these circumstances, your career path someday may take you into the private sector. If you wish to practice geology in Kentucky in the private sector, then you must be registered as a PG or certified as a GIT. With the uncertainty in employment these days, it is probably best to keep all of your options open.

MICHAEL P. SANDERS
Chair, Kentucky Board of Registration
for Professional Geologists



Intro to ArcGIS 9.1

An Introduction to ArcGIS 9.1 class is tentatively planned for summer or early fall, 2006. Classes typically last from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm, and are held in the basement of the William T. Young Library. A registration fee covers the cost of course materials. For more information, please contact Matt Crawford, Kentucky Geological Survey at 859-257-5500 ext 209.

Opinion and Declaratory Ruling Related to the Kentucky Oil and Gas Completion Report

The following is a summary of an Opinion and Declaratory Ruling provided by the Board to the Kentucky Division of Oil and Gas Conservation in response to the following questions related to interpretation of the statutes governing the practice of geology in Kentucky:

- Does the Formation Record portion of the Oil and Gas Well Completion Report (Form ED-3) and specifically the requirement to “Describe rock types and other materials and record occurrences of oil, gas, and water from surface to total depth” under the heading “Rock Type” constitute the “practice of geology” in Kentucky?
- Must those descriptions be prepared by a registered Professional Geologist?

The Board is of the opinion that to “Describe rock types and other materials and record occurrences of oil, gas, and water from surface to total depth” does constitute the practice of geology under KRS 322.010(1) and (3), specifically, “the performance of service to the public in connection with the geological description, location, or evaluation of earth materials, liquids, and gases, and the natural processes acting upon them.”

The Board is also of the opinion that a person engaged to provide such descriptions on these reports be a registered Professional Geologist in the Commonwealth of Kentucky or a Geologist in Training under the supervision of a registered Professional Geologist unless that individual is exempted under 322A.080. Exempted individuals are professional engineers, or employees of the United States, state or local governments while engaged in providing geological services for their employers.

The Board is in the process of working with the Division of Oil & Gas to come up with a reasonable solution to satisfy the statutory requirements of KRS 322 and the laws and regulations administered by the Division of Oil and Gas.

Geology Association Quick Reference

American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG)

1400 W 122nd Ave. Ste. 250
Westminster, CO 80234
303-412-6205
303-253-9220 (fax)

aipg@aipg.org
<http://www.aipg.org>

AIPG – Kentucky Section

info@professionalgeologist.com
<http://www.professionalgeologist.org>

Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG)

P.O. Box 460518
Denver, CO 80246
303-757-2926
303-757-2969 (fax)
<http://aegweb.org>

The Geological Society of America

P.O. 9140
Boulder, CO 80301-9140
303-357-1000
888-443-4472
303-357-1071 (fax)
gsaservice@geosociety.org
<http://www.geosociety.org>

American Association of Petroleum Geologists

P.O. Box 979
Tulsa, OK 74101-0979
918-584-2555
800-364-2274
918-560-2694 (fax)
postmaster@aapg.org
<http://www.aapg.org>

Kentucky Oil and Gas Association

#1-A Physicians Park
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-226-1955
502-226-3626 (fax)
<http://www.kyoilgas.org>

Independent Oil Producers Association, Tri-State, Inc.

2104 Lincoln Ave.
Evansville, IN 47714
812-479-9451
812-476-2569 (fax)

Kentucky Society of Professional Geologists

<http://www.kspg.org>

National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)

P.O. Box 11591
Columbia, SC 29211-1591
803-739-5676
803-739-8874
<http://www.asbog.org>

Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (SME)

8307 Shaffer Parkway
Littleton, CO 80127-4102
800-763-3132
303-739-5676
303-739-8874 (fax)
sme@smenet.org
<http://www.smenet.org>

23rd INTERNATIONAL PITTSBURGH COAL CONFERENCE

September 25 – 28, 2006

University of Pittsburgh
School of Engineering

David L. Laurence
Convention Center
Pittsburgh PA

Geological Society of America

*Annual Meeting and
Exposition*

October 22 – 25
Philadelphia PA

Board Administrator Dana Hockensmith



Registration questions?
Contact Dana:
(502) 564-3296 (ext. 240) voice
(502) 564-4818 fax
dana.hockensmith@ky.gov email



Kentucky Division of Occupations and Professions

Eastern Section AAPG Annual Meeting

September 16 – 18, 2007

Hyatt Regency Hotel & Lexington Center
Lexington, KY

Local Hosts:

Kentucky Society of Professional Geologists,
Kentucky Geological Survey,
Dept. of Earth & Environmental Sciences,
University of Kentucky

General Chair: Dave Harris
dcharris@uky.edu 859-257-5500 (ext 173)

Technical Program Chair: Jim Drahovzal
drahovzal@uky.edu, 859-257-5500 (ext 175)

Events: Field trips, short courses, oral and poster technical sessions, exhibit hall, social events

*2005 ASBOG Meeting
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Several topics that were discussed at the annual meeting included using the FG exam as an exit exam for colleges and universities, and the topic of continuing education. Since many states, including Kentucky, have instituted a GIT (Geologist in Training) designation, the use of the FG exam as an exit exam is becoming more common. Use of the FG exam as an exit exam actually has a dual purpose. First, it is used as a "final" exam for students wishing to earn a particular degree. Second, it serves as an assessment of the curriculum for a university or college, and how well that curriculum is being taught. I am pleased to report that for the 17 FG tests administered in Kentucky on March 3, 2006, we had 15 passing scores, and for the 14 PG exams given, we had 13 passing scores. This has been a remarkable turn around for Kentucky and it speaks highly for the increasing quality of our schools and geologic faculties, and the hard work of our graduates.

With regard to continuing education, the voting delegates of ASBOG decided that this topic would best be addressed by states and organizations other than ASBOG. Since organizations such as AIPG have been working on this subject for the past several years, any effort by ASBOG would be a duplication of effort.

MICHAEL P. SANDERS
Chair, Kentucky Board of
Registration for Professional
Geologists

6th Annual Technical Forum
**GEOHAZARDS in
TRANSPORTATION
in the
APPALACHIAN REGION**

Hosted by



**University of Kentucky
Kentucky Geological Survey**

**August 2 – 3, 2006
Lexington KY**

Sponsored by:
**Nick J. Rahall, II
Appalachian Transportation
Institute
Marshall University
Center for Environmental,
Geotechnical
and Applied Sciences**

Save the Date!

**Kentucky Society
of Professional
Geologists**

**Fall Field Conference
Owensboro-Henderson area**

October 5 – 7, 2006

Henderson Ramada Inn

Preconference (October 5)
Soil-Description Workshop
USDA personnel
KGS Henderson Office

*New/amended administrative regulations
Continued from page 2*

establishes official procedures for the investigation of initiating complaints received by the Board by establishing a Complaint Committee consisting of at least two Board members, acting in a grand jury function, that reviews initiating complaints and brings its recommendation to the Board, which then acts as a jury in cases against specific credentialed individuals or applicants before the Board. The Complaint Committee's task is to decide whether enough evidence has been submitted to demonstrate that a violation has occurred.

Geologist-in-training Certificate

Under KRS 322A.045, persons may apply for certification as a Geologist-in-Training by providing evidence that he or she has successfully completed at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours in geology culminating in a baccalaureate or advanced degree in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, or geological or geotechnical engineering from an accredited college or university. At the discretion of the Board, courses dealing with applied geological science given under the auspices of an academic department other than geology may be considered toward fulfillment of this requirement. In addition, applicants must obtain a passing score on the Board's fundamentals of geology examination. Students enrolled in the final year of an approved undergraduate program are eligible to take this examination. Upon passing the examination, the applicant may apply to the Board to be enrolled and receive a certificate as a Geologist-in-Training.

A Geologist-in-Training (201 KAR 31:080) may prepare geologic reports, documents, or conduct any geological work only while in the employment of, and under the supervision of, a registered Professional Geologist; must clearly identify himself or herself on any geologic reports or documents and to the public as a "Geologist-in-Training"; limit his or her professional geologic work to the specific services for which he or she is competent based on professional experience, training, education, and experience; and not provide supervision for a registered Professional Geologist or another Geologist-in-Training.

Under the new regulations (201 KAR 31:010, 31:040, 31:050, and 31:060), Geologists-in-Training are subject to the same renewal fees and professional code of conduct as apply to registered Professional Geologists.



February 6, 2006 Board Meeting. Pictured left to right are Mark Brengelman, Board Attorney; John Parrish, Director, Division of Occupations & Professions; Tom Rayavec, Board member; Bob Fox, Board member (Public-at-Large); Mike Sanders, Board Chair; Doug Reynolds, Board Vice Chair; Jim Cobb, State Geologist (*Ex-Officio*); and Dana Hockensmith (Board Administrator).

Kentucky Geologists is published semiannually by the Kentucky Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. The publication features topics relevant to the ethical practice of geology in the Commonwealth. Suggestions for the newsletter should be directed to Judith Hower, Communications Specialist, Kentucky Geological Survey, 228 Mining & Mineral Resources Building, University of Kentucky, Lexington KY 40506-0107, (859) 277-0777; FAX (859) 257-1147 <jhowe2@pop.uky.edu>.



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